

**AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN
METROPOLITAN ST. LOUIS INTERBRANCH COUNCIL
stlouis-ibc.aauw.net
November 24, 2020 - Zoom Enabled Meeting**

Attendance – Names in Bold are Voting Members - IBC Directory of Branch Officers is Attached

IBC Chairs

Co-Chair Barbara Johnson (KWG)
Co-Chair Deb McWard (KWG)
Secretary Marsha Koch (KWG)
Finance Chair Carol Davis McDonald (KWG)

State Positions

Facebook Editor Nancy Hutchins (KWG)
MIM Editor Mary Jermak (BC)
Public Policy Chair Karen Francis (BC)

Ballwin-Chesterfield (BC)

Co-President **Jan Horner**
Program VP Yvonne Ward
Program VP Carol Anthony
Newsltr Editor Jean Light
Member-at-Large **Jean Elliott**

Ferguson-Florissant (FF)

Co-President Wilzetta Bell
Co-President **Pam Meyers**
Program VP **Shirley Breeze**
Newsltr Editor Pat Keleman

Kirkwood-Webster Groves (KWG)

Co-President **Eugenia Webdell**
Co-President **Chris Nobbe**
Program VP **Kay Meyer**
Membership VP **Deb McWard**

St. Charles (STC)

President **Betty Takahashi**
Member-at-Large Teri Brecht
Director **Grace Poertner**

St. Louis (STL)

Co-President **Ellen Irons**
Membership VP Carol Davis McDonald
Member-at-Large **Jan Scott**

IBC Co-Chair Deb McWard reminded us that each branch is allowed four votes. Each branch identified voting members present at the meeting. Their names are bolded in the attendance list above. Grace Poertner asked everyone to please correct her email to gpoertne@yahoo.com.

Approval of Minutes of August 25 Meeting

Corrections: 1) Page 3 paragraph 2 the number of Barbara Lackritz Awardees from the St. Louis branch is 4. 2) Names of the attendees should be added at the beginning of the minutes.

MOTION by Jan Scott seconded by Pat Shores that “we accept the minutes as written.” **CARRIED.**

Financial Report: Carol Davis McDonald

Carol reported that we have \$2,909.21 in the operating fund. Her financial report (attached) was accepted as presented.

Branch Program Sharing: Deb McWard

Ballwin-Chesterfield’s Zoom programs have been recorded if the speakers gave permission.

Ferguson-Florissant had its first Zoom meeting in November, and it was a success. They are looking for program ideas for future Zoom meetings.

Kirkwood-Webster Groves reported that their November program was a little different in that they observed a Zoom presentation presented by Empower Missouri and sponsored by Women’s Voices Raised for Social Justice followed by a private Zoom discussion amongst members. Nancy Hutchins congratulated Kirkwood-Webster Groves on its 100th Anniversary of the 19th Amendment sign project.

St. Charles is having a Zoom board meeting in January to plan programs; Teri sends cartoons and emails to members every day.

St. Louis had its first Zoom meeting in October. It was a post-election discussion group with about seven people and turned out to be a good venting session. They discussed having a book club, but decided to do a movie club instead. They watched "My Octopus" and then discussed it. On Dec 21 they will watch "The Social Dilemma." They want to extend the 100th Anniversary celebration across St. Louis especially to black sororities and find locations to install plaques. In Washington, D.C. they created walks and statues around suffragists. Anyone who is interested in working on this project is welcome to help. St. Louis has been asked by the Girls Scouts to submit suggestions for important women in the area to be mystery guests for its Zoom with a mystery guest program.

Nancy Hutchins offered the state's Inclusion and Diversity Committee to work with Ellen on the committee to honor black suffragists. Ellen will touch base with Karen Francis about the Greenwood Cemetery program. Marsha will send Ellen picture of a group in Kansas City that honored suffragists.

2021 Spring Fling

At the August IBC meeting members voted to have a virtual Spring Fling in 2021 at which to celebrate Mary Jermak as the Barbara Lackritz awardee.

MOTION by Jan Scott seconded by Chris Nobbe to hold it [Spring Fling] on Saturday, March 13. **CARRIED.**

MOTION by Jean Elliott and seconded by Jan Scott that the program start at 10:30. **CARRIED.**

PROGRAM by Ferguson-Florissant: Spring Fling program should have a speaker. Suggestions for speakers included:

- Elizabeth D. Katz, Associate Professor of Law at Washington University. She has a strong background in women's issues and the history of women and the law and has written an article for the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*. (<https://law.wustl.edu/faculty-staff-directory/profile/elizabeth-d-katz/>; elizabeth.katz@wustl.edu; (314) 935-3377.)
- Sandy Davidson, Professor of Law at Mizzou. She speaks on a variety of topics from the MO Speakers Bureau.

Since it will be virtual, there will be no food. It was suggested that in lieu of paying for a meal we ask for a donation.

FUNDRAISING by Ballwin-Chesterfield: Branches still have totes filled with items that were assembled for last year's Spring Fling. We could put pictures of each tote and its contents on IBC's website. Send bag content information and photos to Mary Jermak who will create a document that can be printed and circulated. She will also send them to Lynne Roney, IBC webmaster, for the website. The link to the photos should be on the registration form. The registration form should include the option to donate to NCCWSL and to IBC funds (suggested donation \$20) and a link to the raffle information.

PUBLICITY/INVITATION by ST. CHARLES: Need to send publicity by end of December; it needs to include that members can participate by phone instead of computer. Publicity and program materials should be electronic versions with printable flyers and programs for non-computer members

REGISTRATION by Kirkwood-Webster Groves: The registration form should include the link to the raffle bags as well as the suggestion to donate to NCCWSL and/or IBC.

ZOOM ARRANGEMENTS by St. Louis: Ellen Irons offered to host the Zoom and will share ways Zoom can be used to enhance the experience. We need to brainstorm ways to include members who do not want to do virtual activities. Phone only is an option. Ellen will share her ideas for publicity with St. Charles.

It was suggested to assemble a team to address technical challenges prior to the February 2021 IBC meeting. Members of the team could include:

- Marsha Koch – Zoom
- Lynne Roney – Zoom
- Linda Roberson – chair of the Barb Lackritz Committee
- Chris Nobbe – Zoom and virtual program design
- Deb McWard – NCCWSL coordinator (to invite present or past awardees)
- Nancy Hutchins – Facebook
- Carol Davis-McDonald – Finance Chair

One person from each branch was designated to serve as a primary contact for Spring Fling information:

- Jean Elliott – BC
- Pamela Meyers – FF
- Deb McWard – KWG
- Teri Brecht – STC
- Ellen Irons – STL

NCCWSL Update: Deb McWard

AAUW has not made an official decision about having the 2021 NCCWSL. IBC has one student carried over from last year, and BC has one.

International Relations Lecture Series: Kay Meyer

Dates of programs are in last newsletter.

Follow Up on Centennial Celebration: Ellen Irons

Mary Jermak did such a great job on the Centennial celebrations in the *MIM*. Ellen will send to all branches a list of branch programs on the Centennial that were recorded and available to branches as programs. Ellen asked if there was any interest in booking the Centennial speakers who were scheduled for last year's state program but had to be cancelled. Lynne Roney stated that the Centennial Celebration was a project of the state board, and Sue Shineman feels that we should continue the celebration throughout the year. It could be for AAUW branches and include other groups. There were two wonderful speakers from MU and KC who were going to present how the 19th Amendment affected all women. We still have lynching occurring today. Karen Francis proposed continuing to hear from inclusive women perhaps in March, Women's History Month.

Ellen praised AAUW Missouri branches for their work on the Proclamation project. It was one of the first state activities in which branches all over the state participated.

Regional Conference in 2021: Karen Francis

There will be no in-person regional in 2021. The planning committee is looking into a virtual program possibly in June.

New Business

The possibility of an in-person event in the fall was deferred to the February meeting.

The use of conference rooms at County Libraries for daytime meetings was deferred until we are actually able to meet in person again.

Marsha Koch suggested that IBC take on a project to actively seek women for vacant positions on boards. This would require researching and tracking boards and open positions, looking for like-minded women interested in

serving on boards, and helping them secure open positions. It would be an area-wide project. Deb McWard said that the Sue Shear Institute used to do this. Lynn Voss, a St. Louis member who now leads the Sue Shear Institute, may be a good resource for brainstorming this idea.

AAUW is matching gifts through the end of the year.

Lynne Roney solicited ideas for content on the website. All voting information will be removed.

Respectfully submitted,

Marsha Koch

Marsha Koch

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